

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 EUR-12
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FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4978
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T SANTO DOMINGO 3270

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: XA, CU, UR, MPOL
SUBJECT: DOMINICAN REACTION TO SOVIET AND CUBAN ROLE IN AFRICA

REF: STATE 148740

1. SHABA INVASION CAME SHORTLY BEFORE DOMINICAN
ELECTORAL CRISIS. THOUGH SITUATION IN AFRICA HAS
BEEN AMPLY COVERED IN LOCAL PRESS REPORTING, DOMINICANS,
INCLUDING THOSE IN GOVERNMENT, HAVE FOCUSED ALMOST
TOTAL ATTENTION ON THEIR OWN POLITICAL PROBLEMS FOR PAST
MONTH, AND IN ANY EVENT ARE WONT TO REACT IN LOW-KEY
MANNER TO DISTANT PROBLEMS SUCH AS AFRICAN DEVELOPMENTS.

2. WHILE GODR, PARTICULARLY ANTI-COMMUNIST MILITARY, ARE
SENSITIVE TO CUBAN ADVENTURISM, AND SOME CONTACTS WORRY
ABOUT CUBAN AGGRESSIVENESS ONCE CASTRO'S TROOPS COME HOME,
THE THREAT OF CUBAN INTERVENTIONISM APPEARS REMOTE HERE
AT PRESENT, DESPITE PROXIMITY TO CUBA. HOWEVER, THIS
SENSE OF SECURITY UNDOUBTEDLY RESTS ON PERCEPTION THAT US
WOULD RESIST CUBAN MEDDLING IN HEMISPHERE. IN THE
EYES OF SOME, THIS CONFIDENCE HAS ALREADY BEEN SOME-
WHAT DILUTED BY SOVIET/CUBAN ADVANCES IN AFRICA AND
APPARENT LIMITED US ABILITY TO CHECK THEM. THEREFORE

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A US POSITION OF STANDING UP TO SOVIET/CUBAN PENETRATION
IN AFRICA WOULD TEND TO BE FAVORED HERE, THOUGH THESE
GENERALIZED ATTITUDES ARE RARELY EXPRESSED IN FORM OF
PRECISE DEFINITION OF COMPLEX PROBLEMS OR SPECIFIC
PRESCRIPTIONS FOR HANDLING PROBLEMS.

3. WE DO NOT BELIEVE GODR PERCEIVES SOVIET AND CUBAN

ROLE IN AFRICA AS DIVISIVE OR POTENTIALLY DIVISIVE ISSUE
AMONG LA COUNTRIES AS CUBA, IN DOMINICAN PERSPECTIVE,
HAS RELATIVELY LITTLE SUPPORT FROM OTHER LA COUNTRIES
FOR ITS AFRICAN INVOLVEMENT.
YOST

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
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